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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

The Wreck of the Belle, the Ruin of La Salle, Robert S. Weddle (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2001. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 327. \$29.95. Hardcover.

Even before writing this book, Robert S. Weddle already had established himself as the foremost expert on Robert Cavalier de La Salle and his doomed expedition to the coast of Texas. In this work, Weddle has tied up whatever loose ends remained by writing a complete biography of La Salle and a detailed examination of his fatal trip to Texas. In addition to exhausting sources found in Europe and North America, the author has also included new archaeological findings from the exhumation of the wreck of *La Belle*, discovered in Matagorda Bay in 1995, to present as complete an account of the expedition as can be imagined.

Most importantly, Weddle has studied the many original narratives of the trek to Texas and has found a deliberate lack of candor in every one of them, especially those of La Salle and his brother, Abbé Cavalier. Through expert analysis of the sources, the author is able to present a cogent, exciting narrative which revises almost everything we thought we knew about the expedition and its leader. The most startling finding – even to Weddle himself – is that La Salle, rather than being a daring explorer, was actually a stubborn, insecure fool who refused to take responsibility for anything or advice from anyone. The author demonstrates that the sinking of *La Belle* followed a pattern in La Salle's career in which the explorer loaded crucial goods on one boat and then entrusted the craft to a captain he previously had declared incompetent. In this manner, La Salle avoided blame when three boats sank previously to the *La Belle* in similar circumstances. Unfortunately, the fourth occurrence proved fatal for La Salle and 200 others. Weddle concludes that La Salle “failed on all counts: as fur trader, explorer, military leader, and colonizer. Most of all, in his lack of consideration for those who trusted and followed him, he failed as a human being” (p. 253).

F. Todd Smith

University of North Texas

Explorers and Settlers of Spanish Texas, Donald E. Chipman and Harriet Denise Joseph (University of Texas Press, P. O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819) 2001. Contents. Illus. Biblio. Index. P. 258. \$19.95. Paperback.

Explorers and Settlers of Spanish Texas offers middle and high school students a popular history of early Spanish Texas. The book carries you through the adventures of Cabeza de Vaca, Coronado, and Alonso de Leon. The Lady in Blue, although she never came to the new world, had a significant impact on the Indians and their conversion. The first missions worked towards the conversion of the Indians. The first traders to Spanish Texas, such as Louis St. Denis and his wife, Manuela Sanchez, settled in Natchitoches and traded

with the Caddo and their affiliated tribes. The settling and developing of East Texas from the first missions to the coming of Antonio Gil Ibarvo, the Father of East Texas, are covered in several chapters, along with the existing relationship with the various Caddo tribes located in the East Texas area.

Young readers learn the importance of these early Spaniards and the French who worked diligently to settle this vast territory. Most of the early explorers and settlers saw the advantages of a working relationship with the indigenous peoples who occupied Texas, but some were not so inclined. Most of the political leaders of the Spanish era were military men, and most military men did not like or trust Indians. The majority of the biographical sketches feature renowned individuals. This book is a well-presented history that should appeal to a wide audience, not just to young readers.

Donna Cooper West
Sacul, Texas

Mexican Americans in Texas History, Selected Essays, Emilio Zamora, Cynthia Orozco, and Rodolfo Rocha, editors (Texas State Historical Association, 2.306 Sid Richardson Hall, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712) 2000. Contents. Appendix. P. 219. \$15.95. Paperback.

On May 2, 1991, approximately 600 participants gathered in San Antonio to attend a conference on "Mexican Americans in Texas History." Of the fifty-two presentations at that pioneering conference, ten appear in this collection, along with an informative historiographical essay by the editors and two extensive bibliographies. The result is a collection of original essays that provide an appealing sample of recent scholarship in Mexican-American history.

The conference organizers limited papers to the post-1836 period. The editors organize their volume chronologically into nineteenth-century and twentieth century sections, then add a section on "Biography and Literature" and conclude with the two bibliographies. The essays are uniformly strong and represent a cross-section of work by established and younger scholars. In the former category, Rodolfo Rocha's essay on the 1915 Tejano revolt and its tenuous relationship to the Mexican Revolution and the Plan of San Diego provides a fascinating perspective on this often neglected but dramatic period in Texas history. Also impressive are the three works that focus political and social organization within Mexican-American urban communities. Two, one by Roberto R. Calderón and the other by Emilio Zamora, examine *mutualistas* and their changing role in the Mexican American community. Calderón depicts *mutualistas* in turn-of-the-century Laredo as the means by which the segregated Mexican and Mexican-American majority developed an organized voice in their community and he notes how they reflected political and ethnic divisions within the community. Zamora examines the role of *mutualistas* in early twentieth-century Texas as the precursors of more politically oriented organizations. Both authors saw *mutualistas* as providing voice to the Mexican

and Mexican-American communities in Texas. María Christina García, on the other hand, examines the role of the Rusk settlement in the east-end Houston *barrio* as both a purveyor of needed social and political services and as an instrument of Americanization which did not always reflect the best interests of the Mexican-American community.

I could go on about the other essays in this book. Each adds significantly to our understanding of the richness and complexity of Mexican-American history in Texas. The authors, the editors, and the Texas State Historical Association deserve our gratitude for bringing us this fine collection of essays.

Cary D. Wintz

Texas Southern University

New Foundations: Preliminary Studies of the Texas Catholic Historical Society III, Jesús F. de la Teja, editor, (Texas Catholic Historical Society, 1625 Rutherford Ln, Bldg D, Austin, TX 78754-5105) 2000. Contents. Biblio. P. 188. \$19.95+\$1.50 s/h. Paperback.

This third volume of *New Foundations* provides readers with an excellent collection of sources and a current bibliography that detail the contributions of Spanish-speaking peoples to the history of Texas and the American Southwest. Although this anthology contains writings by several noteworthy scholars, the most important essays are those by the late Carlos Eduardo Castaneda. The writings of this dedicated scholar documented a part of Texas history that many writers wished to ignore. In addition, they presented a direct challenge to the "Anglo-centered" Texas history that dominated Texas historiography in the twentieth century. One need only read Castaneda's "The Beginnings of University Life in America" and "Pioneers in Sackcloth" to preview some of the arguments a later generation of historians would develop. This work, in conjunction with Felix Almaraz's masterful *Knight Without Armor*, does much to shed light not only on colonial Spanish/Texas history, but also on the politics involved in historical study.

When teaching an introductory course on the history of Texas, this reviewer has sometimes faced a classroom full of students who know little else about the state's history than the Alamo and the Dallas Cowboys. There have been several occasions on the first day of class when individuals have asked why I plan to spend so much time "talking about Mexicans" in my course. Hopefully, the materials in this collection will further open eyes, minds, and hearts regarding the role of Spanish-speaking peoples in the history of the state of Texas.

Jorge Iber

Texas Tech University

Voyage to North America, 1844-45: Prince Carl of Solms's Texas Diary of People, Places, and Events, Wolfram M. Von-Maszewski, editor and translator (University of North Texas Press, P.O. Box 311336, Denton, TX 76302-1336) 2000. Contents. Appendix. Illus. Index. P. 244. \$32.50. Hardcover.

The Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas (commonly known as the *Adelsverein* or Society of Nobles) brought nearly 10,000 Germans to Texas between 1844 and 1850 and its publicity persuaded many others to make the journey independently. The *Adelsverein's* first Commissioner-General, Prince Carl of Solms, was a critical figure in its operations.

This translation of Solms' recently found personal record of his journey to Texas contributes to our understanding of his personality and the work of the *Adelsverein* in Texas. Brief daily entries show Solms' romantic nature as he pines for his fiancée, Princess Sophie of Salm-Salm. He displays impatience with the shortcomings of others and a preference for the company of Germans over anyone else. The diary documents Solms' networking among prominent Texans and his efforts to secure land. Solms has been characterized as lacking practical skills, but we see here his conscientious work on the *Adelsverein's* behalf. For example, this document brings to light that Solms actively sought out his successor to confer before leaving Texas, meeting him in San Marcos rather than Galveston, as has been circulated previously.

There are two interesting counterpoints to Solms' diary. Von-Maszewski includes the diary of Alexander Bourgeois d'Orvanne, whose cancelled land grant could never be used by the *Adelsverein*. D'Orvanne defends himself and criticizes Solms. In addition, an 1846 letter by Solms to Queen Victoria suggests Britain should militarily contain the United States. This may be an extreme expression of his well-known anti-American sentiment, but it shows the transatlantic tensions of the 1840s.

In his diary, Solms often wrote in incomplete sentences and frequently referred to names or events with little explanation. Von-Maszewski's notes are useful and necessary, but cannot explain all of Solms' obscure references. Despite the able translation, this is not a smooth read, but it makes accessible important details of Solms' work.

Alison Efford

The University of Texas at Arlington

Texas Smoke: Muzzle-Loaders on the Frontier, C.F. Eckhardt (Texas Tech University Press, P.O. Box 41037, Lubbock, TX 79410) 2001. Contents. Illus. Index. P. 128. \$15.95. Paperback.

Undoubtedly the strong point of this book is the author's down-to-earth writing style with a little dry humor. You won't get a belly laugh from this book, but if you don't watch yourself you will emit a chuckle now and then. He describes a combination pistol and mace: "If the enemy got too close before the

soldier finished reloading, he whacked the assailant. . . . If the pistol was spiked anybody who was whacked with it stayed whacked for quite a while."

The book gives an overview of firearms history which in spite of an obvious effort to simplify I found technically accurate. I have read at least a dozen descriptions of the snaphance and the flintlock and still was not sure what the difference was. Echardt made the difference perfectly clear.

The author states that the Texas muzzle loaders were flintlocks that were called "Kentuckies" but were made mostly around Lancaster, Pennsylvania. They were of relatively small caliber (.31 to .45). It was easier to carry powder and shot for a small caliber and any frontiersman could pick up bits of flint from the ground. Davy Crockett left his new percussion rifle in Tennessee and brought his favorite flintlock when he came to Texas. At least one of the other defenders was not so prudent. Archaeologists found a spilled box of percussion caps at the Alamo.

The author gives a detailed account of the development and production of the revolver. Revolvers were not produced in Texas but they made their reputation in the state. This was the first practical repeating firearm and was used widely by organizations such as the Texas Rangers.

I was a bit disappointed in the lack of anecdotal material.

I also think it was unfortunate that Echardt ended his book at 1860. Realistically, however, another fifteen or twenty years could have doubled the size of the book.

Wallace Davison
Comanche, Texas

The Indian Wars in Stephen F. Austin's Texas Colony, 1822-1835, Allen G. Hatley (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159) 2001. Contents. Notes. Epilogue. Illus. Biblio. Index. P. 146. \$19.95. Paperback.

Allan Hatley's *The Indian Wars in Stephen F. Austin's Texas Colony, 1822-1835* bridges a gap between legend and fact on the encounters of early Texas settlers and the Indians already living in the region. He also dispels the notion that Stephen F. Austin was the lone founder of the Texas Rangers.

Hatley's first chapter, entitled "It Was the Indian Who Ruled Texas," includes a short history of the Indian disputes with Spanish soldiers and civilians. He discusses the arrival of Moses Austin in San Antonio in December 1820, to present his plan to colonize "up to 300 mostly married colonists of good reputation" in the area of South Central Texas. (p.2) Other chapter titles include "1822: The Militia is Formed," "Moses Morrison and the 'Little Garrison,'" "American Blood Flows in Their Veins," "I Wish for Peace, But Am Ready for War," "Austin Goes to War," and "From the Fredonian Disturbance to Velasco."

Hatley presents a magnificent outline of the early settlers' struggles to coexist with the natives of the land through war and diplomacy. An epilogue gives vivid accounts of the events of the Texas militias and the state's eventual path to statehood. The appendix contains excellent sources such as proclamations, notes, letters, and official correspondence that are used throughout the book. This section should be read to gain a fuller understanding of the events regarding Austin's colony and the Indians in Texas. Hatley's book is highly recommended for students and scholars studying in the field of Texas history.

Brian P. King
Nacogdoches, Texas

Homesteads Ungovernable: Families, Sex, Race, and the Law in Frontier Texas, 1823-1860, Mark M. Carroll (University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819) 2001. Contents. Map. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 244. \$19.95. Paperback. \$40.00. Hardcover.

In a study of legal relationships in Texas between 1823 and 1860, Mark Carroll sees living conditions, Hispanic matrimonial law, and economic benefits of marriage in acquiring land as factors in the development of Texas family law. Settlers from the lower slave states affected development, but their ideas collided with frontier conditions to create a progressive and pragmatic system in Texas.

Carroll examines men with broken families and failed marriages who created a multiracial frontier. Anglo men married, cohabited with, or had *Tejana*, Indian, and black women as mistresses. While President Mirabeau B. Lamar asserted that the white and red man could not live in harmony, the legislature enacted no laws prohibiting whites from marrying Indians. Texans passed an anti-miscegenation law in 1837 banning marriages between those of European and African descent, but "complicated relationships" (p. 51) had existed since free blacks, escaped slaves, and Anglos commingled on the frontier of Mexican Texas. Tolerated by local communities, a majority of lower-state Southerners later denied offspring the rights of inheritance and protected the property interests of white family members.

Texas saw much informal coupling and uncoupling. "Marriage by bond," introduced by Stephen F. Austin to create respectable unions, was legalized by lawmakers in 1841 who legitimized the children reflecting Scottish "habit and repute." (p. 119). Also, absolute divorce was granted on specific grounds and wives received an equal share of property acquired during marriage. Texas women were capable of handling their own affairs, owned substantial amounts of land, and did not need the support of former husbands. Texas husbands could not beat their wives as in other states, and if they did, they were subject to prosecution.

Entertaining, informative, and gossipy, the Texas Supreme Court Cases accentuate the uncommon, but the book names too many East Texans to list in this review.

Linda S. Hudson
East Texas Baptist University

Primrose Past: The 1848 Journal of a Young Lady Primrose, Caroline Rose Hunt (ReganBooks/HarperCollins Publishers, 10 East 53rd St., New York, NY 10022) 2001. Illus. P. 251. \$26.00. Hardcover.

Caroline Hunt, owner of an antique shop and one of the most powerful women in the travel industry, has written a book of fiction about a young girl in Victorian England. Hunt begins her story in Dallas before she travels to England to buy an antique desk and discovers a journal and drawings of a young woman named Cygnet. There are sketches so readers can see various aspects of Cygnet's life. She is a fifteen-year old who begins her journal entry on her birthday and concludes it three months later.

The book is written in diary format and is easy to follow. The beginning and the conclusion are written in first-person narrative with Hunt and her business partner in the store trying to reveal more about the information they have stumbled upon. It is historical fiction, but it lacks the ability to challenge the reader.

The book could easily be read in one sitting and is for anyone who has an interest in nineteenth century England or in genealogy and in the mystery surrounding the pursuit of truth. It looks great on a reading table, but the outside is more attractive than the content.

Susan E. West
Burleson, Texas

Captain L. H. McNelly, Texas Ranger: The Life and Times of a Fighting Man, Chuck Parsons and Marianne E. Hall Little (State House Press, PO Box 15247, Austin, Texas 78761) 2001. Contents. Notes. Biblio. Index. Illust. P. 366. \$34.95. Hardcover. \$21.95. Paperback.

No post-Civil War Texas Ranger of the nineteenth century has had more written about him than Captain Leander H. McNelly. None was as revered by his men – they called themselves Little McNellys – and none was more controversial. Outside of Texas, McNelly never reached the fame of other western lawmen such as Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, or Heck Thomas. Once the record is examined, however, none can walk in his shadow. Before being struck down by tuberculosis at only thirty-three, McNelly packed as much excitement and danger into his short life as did more notable peers in full lifetimes.

Parsons and Hall Little have done a masterful job separating the controversies, myths, and legends that have followed McNelly since his own era. These stories comprise a list so long that no other historians have taken on the difficult task of separating truth from fiction.

While a young man, McNelly studied for the ministry and was forced into the life of a warrior by the Civil War – or so the story goes. The facts, as pointed out by the authors, do not support that myth. Though undoubtedly a religious man, before the war McNelly led a peaceful life as a sheepherder.

While his young life did seem serene, without question the fire of a warrior was in his soul.

The authors trace McNelly's service in the Confederate army from his enlistment in 1861 in the 5th Texas Cavalry through the New Mexico campaign. In the Battle of Galveston, McNelly helped capture the Union ship *Harriet Lane* and received the sword of the commander, Captain Jonathan Wainwright, grandfather of the famed World War II General Wainwright – or did he? From there, he operated as a partisan Ranger behind Union lines in Louisiana, where he covered himself in enough glory to have lasted most men a lifetime. But McNelly was only getting started.

The authors continue with McNelly's years as a captain in the hated State Police of carpetbag governor E.J. Davis. For reasons explained in the book, McNelly, unlike the other captains, emerged with his reputation intact. When Davis was forced from office, the new administration knew that law had to be brought to Texas if the state was to survive. Like the phoenix of Greek mythology – the Texas Rangers – the old guard of Texas, was brought back from the ashes. Two groups were formed: Major John Jones commanded the Frontier Battalion and Captain Leander McNelly commanded the Washington County Mounted Volunteers in the Nueces Strip between the Nueces River and Rio Grande.

From there, McNelly's folklore blossomed. The authors follow McNelly as he handled the Taylor-Sutton Feud in DeWitt County and moved on to the Rio Grande. There he rose to mythical status to many Anglos – and to the embodiment of pure evil to many Mexicans. The book ends when McNelly completed his service to Texas as he went against outlaw King Fisher.

No library of the Texas Rangers in general, and Captain Leander McNelly and his Little McNellys in particular, would be complete without this extremely well-researched and fully documented book.

Robert Nieman
Longview, Texas

Gideon Lincecum's Sword: Civil War Letters from the Texas Home Front, Jerry Bryan Lincecum, Edward Hake Phillips, and Peggy A. Redshaw, editors (University of North Texas Press, P.O. Box 311336, Denton, TX 76203-1336) 2001. Contents. Appendix. Illus. Index. P. 378. \$39.95. Hardcover.

Those who lived in the South suffered greatly during the Civil War era. It is difficult to grasp what people must endure during a time of war. Reading *Gideon Lincecum's Sword*, one can understand what one person must have felt during the Civil War. This book is a compilation of Gideon Lincecum's correspondence during the years 1859 through 1866. In them, Lincecum and his extended family discussed how the war affected their lives. Lincecum's family lived in Texas, so the majority of the letters were written from many different cities in Texas, some of which are no longer in existence. Lincecum

copied all of his letters on a letterpress and kept them in volumes which his daughter preserved. Jerry Bryan Lincecum, a sixth generation descendent of Gideon Lincecum, was the editor and researcher for this compilation. This book provides insight into the lives of citizens who endured the trials and tribulations of the Civil War era and a window into the minds and hearts of nineteenth century Texans.

Alicia Young
Lavon, Texas

Sibley's New Mexico Campaign, Martin Hardwick Hall (University of New Mexico Press, 1720 Lomas Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1591) 2000. Reprint 1960. Contents. Appendix. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 232. \$29.95. Hardcover.

After the formation of the Confederate States of America, many Southerners believed that the citizens of New Mexico Territory would cast their lot with the South since they had a stringent slave code and about thirty Negro slaves. The Confederates planned to occupy New Mexico as a stepping-stone for expansion into Southern California and parts of Northern Mexico, which they believed were loyal to the South.

To occupy the New Mexico Territory, Confederate General Henry Hopkins Sibley led a brigade of about 3,400 men known as the Army of New Mexico from Texas in 1862. Sibley met resistance from Union Colonel Edward Canby, who was stationed in New Mexico prior to the formation of the Confederacy and was not willing to abandon the territory. After Sibley's initial victory at the Battle of Valverde, his supplies ran short and New Mexicans were reluctant to do business with the Rebels.

Sibley's brigade continued its march toward Santa Fe, where it met and clashed with Canby's troops at Glorieta Pass. The Confederates were defeated and withdrew from New Mexico. Sibley's loss and subsequent departure from New Mexico ended Confederate hopes of a western empire.

Hall's book is well written, and is thoroughly researched. Readers will certainly find this reprint of an earlier publication worth reexamination.

Son H. Mai
Arlington, Texas

Brush Men & Vigilantes: Civil War Dissent in Texas, David Pickering and Judy Falls (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2000. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 223. \$24.95. Hardcover.

Brush Men and Vigilantes: Civil War Dissent in Texas is the initial volume in the Sam Rayburn Series on Rural Life, a series of books designed

to focus on the history of northeast Texas. David Pickering, long time newspaperman from Corpus Christi (now deceased), and Judy Falls, high school English teacher in Cooper, Texas, have provided an entertaining and well-told story of the vigilantes who killed more than a dozen men during the Civil War. With or without war, Texas was a violent land. The thickets and forests of the Sulphur River bottom became a battleground for those opposed to secession, the brush men, and those who supported slavery, the vigilantes, who tracked down and hanged their neighbors for sympathizing with the Union. The narrative was crafted by Pickering; Falls did most of the research. She reviewed the records of the five counties involved – Fannin, Lamar, Hunt, Hopkins, and Delta – newspapers, family genealogies, and contacted the relatives of twelve of the fourteen men who were hanged. The yield provided ample sources and documentation for their story. The authors, cousins, are also related to some of the participants in the vigilante activities.

In 1861 the lands of northeast Texas were sown in corn and wheat, rather than cotton; most of the farmers also raised stock. When settlers from Kentucky and Tennessee brought their slaves to Northeast Texas, growing tensions over secession increased. The influence of Governor Sam Houston helped stave off secession, but when the issue was placed before the populace, the secessionists carried the day. In Hopkins County at the Secession Convention in January 1861 representatives voted for secession and the Lamar County delegation voted in its entirety against secession. Sentiment was divided. Public meetings, with stump speeches for and against secession, fanned the growing flames of acrimony between the two sides.

Vigilante groups, such as the Sons of Washington, watched the activities of the hated abolitionists. Henry T. Howard, Presbyterian minister, following the rhetoric of E.L. Dohoney, Paris, Texas, lawyer, made several pro-union speeches. Howard was arrested. His acquittal stirred the ire of his pro-slavery neighbor, John Jack Helms. During Reconstruction, Helms, then a Texas Ranger, became notorious for shooting the men he claimed to be capturing. He was finally killed by John Wesley Hardin.

The authors explore the quasi-connection between the Knights of the Golden Circle, the Masonic Lodge, and vigilante activities. These groups, while not promoting active participation in vigilantism, did provide a convenient framework for vigilante meetings. The same is true for some churches. The rolls of the Antioch Church of Christ carried names of men on both sides of the slavery issue. It did not matter that most pro-union men were not abolitionists. Rather than opposing slavery, most simply did not want the nation to divide. Others were more open in their support of the Union. When news of a Yankee victory reached northeast Texas, pro-union men celebrated by blowing up trees with gunpowder. Such subversionary activities would not be ignored.

In early 1862, members of the Howard and Hemby families were forced to seek refuge in Jernigan's Thicket, a maze of briars and thistles so thick that only the animals were assured of finding their way out. The vigilantes were forced to starve their prey out of the woods. Finally, seven men, Henry, Thomas, and

James Howard, two Hemby men, and two others, were ousted from the thicket. Helms negotiated the surrender. At their mock trial, the Howards and the Hembys were not allowed to speak in their own defense. They were judged guilty and sentenced to die by hanging. Two of the men, names unknown, recanted and joined the Confederacy, thus saving their own lives. Henry Howard's last words were reported to have been a prayer for his enemies.

Richard B. McCaslin, in the foreword, applauds *Brush Men* because it explains the broader context of a Texas that is finally coming to terms with the wartime violence that was perpetrated even on its own citizens; the Lost Cause Myth is slowly giving way to the truer picture of a fractured Confederacy. Most Texans fought for the Confederacy, but many stayed home, remaining loyal to the Union. Forced to become brush men, they hid in the thickets from the vigilantes who sought their blood. This is their story.

Randy Harshbarger
Nacogdoches, Texas

Enemies of the Country: New Interpretations on Unionists in the Civil War South, John C. Inscoe and Robert C. Kenzer, editors (University of Georgia Press, 330 Research Dr, Athens, GA 30602-4901) 2001. Contents. Map. Illus. Biblio. Contributors. Index. P. 242. \$45.00. Hardcover.

In the past three decades historians have shown increased interest in the role of Southern Unionists during the American Civil War. The present work, a collection of ten essays by leading scholars, represents the finest example of this rapidly growing area of interest. Most of the essays were presented in a conference titled "Families at War: Loyalty and Conflict in the Civil War South." As a result, heavy emphasis in the essays is on the impact of the war upon Southern families who were divided in their loyalties or considered outcasts by their communities because of their Unionist views.

The essays focus upon Southern regions where Unionists were either more numerous or more conspicuous – the mountains (Appalachia and the Ozarks), urban centers in the deep South (Atlanta, Savannah, Montgomery), and the South's northern and western peripheries (Virginia and Texas). As John C. Inscoe points out in the Introduction, the Unionists described in the essays were, with one exception, all white, more often than not Whigs in politics, and minorities within pro-Confederate communities and regions. Several were slaveholders; none seems to have supported abolitionist views toward slavery.

All of the essays are well researched and clearly written. This reviewer found the article "Highland Households Divided" by Inscoe and Gordon B. McKinney especially informative. In this essay the authors show how frequently one member of a family (often a husband or wife) aided fugitive Union soldiers or escaped prisoners in spite of strong Confederate feelings by other members of the family. They cite one instance in which a mother served as peacemaker between her Confederate and Union sons by requiring them to

leave their weapons in the yard while they came to dinner.

Texas readers will be most interested in Anne Bailey's article "Defiant Unionists: Militant Germans in Confederate Texas." Professor Bailey carefully describes the divisions within Civil War Texas, noting that while Hill Country Germans were divided over the issue of secession, the majority did not support the Confederacy. She gives high marks to district commander John B. Magruder for pursuing a more conciliatory policy toward disaffected Germans than did his predecessors. His efforts, she believes, did "much to quell the threat of bloody guerrilla war" (p. 221) in Texas.

This is a fine book. No one attempting to understand Southern Unionists can afford to ignore it.

Ralph A. Wooster
Lamar University

A Private in the Texas Rangers: A. T. Miller of Company B, Frontier Battalion, John Miller Morris (Texas A & M Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77834-4354) 2001. Contents. Illus. Notes. Appendices. Biblio. Index. p. 334. \$24.95. Hardcover.

Abner Theophilus Miller, called either A.T. or Abner by family and friends, was a twenty-nine year old newcomer to Texas from North Carolina. On February 12, 1887, while living in Margaret, Texas, in Hardeman (now Foard) County, he enlisted in Company B of the Frontier Battalion. Company B, commanded by Captain Samuel A. McMurry, was responsible for keeping the peace in Old Greer County and along the route of the Fort Worth & Denver City Railroad that was built across Northwest Texas and the Panhandle. Miller served in Company B for eighteen months before resigning on August 31, 1888.

This book is said to consist of the diary, in fact three diaries, written by A.T. Miller while he served as a private in the Frontier Battalion. But it is much more than that. What really makes this book interesting and of value is not just A.T. Miller's short diary entries but the longer and insightful annotations and explanations of events added by his great-grandson, John Miller Morris.

I must admit I was somewhat disappointed in the brevity, but mostly the predictability, of the daily entries in Abner's diary. Those entries consistently contain a summary of the weather, a brief mention of his duties, errands, and travels, and times of arrival and departure. Occasionally there is a brief comment on his correspondence and those with whom he met each day, but little else. As advertised, the diary accurately portrays the rather dull routine of the daily duties of a rural Texas lawman.

This is a book worth reading, but without the annotations by John Miller Morris, the diaries of A.T. Miller would have been interesting but hardly insightful.

Allen G. Hatley
La Grange, Texas

Historic Towns of Texas, Vol. 3, Nacogdoches, Goliad, San Felipe, Joe Tom Davis (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159) 2001. Contents. Notes. Biblio. B&W Photos. Index. P. 341. \$27.95. Paperback.

Joe Tom Davis has authored a third volume in his excellent series on *Historic Towns of Texas*. In the opening volume of the series, Davis explored the important institutions and colorful characters of Houston, East Columbia, West Columbia, Egypt, Matagorda, Texana, and Helena, and the second volume dealt with Jefferson, Columbus, and Gonzales. His third effort offers fascinating historical treatments of Nacogdoches, Goliad, and San Felipe.

In describing Nacogdoches, the author relates legendary tales of the founding of the oldest town in Texas. He discusses pertinent French and Spanish explorations, the 1779 construction of the trading post which became famous as "The Old Stone Fort," the "Smuggler's Road" of Louis de St. Denis and Gil Y'Barbo, the presence of such Texas Revolutionary heroes as Thomas J. Rusk and Sam Houston, and the establishment of the oldest Masonic Lodge in East Texas, of Nacogdoches University, and of the teacher's college which became Stephen F. Austin State University. A wealth of fascinating detail is offered in more than 100 pages.

The rich history of Goliad is depicted at even greater length. One of the most important Spanish missions in Texas, La Bahia, provided the founding impetus for the nearby community of Goliad. By 1778, Mission La Bahia boasted 15,000 branded head of cattle, providing the beginnings of Texas' famous range-cattle industry. The mission's large *presidio* became the center of numerous combats and the headquarters of the doomed command of Colonel James Fannin. *Presidio La Bahia* today is fully restored, along with many commercial and residential structures. Several events are conducted each year to encourage tourism in historic, charming Goliad.

San Felipe, the center of Stephen F. Austin's colony, has all but vanished today. But the author provides a welcome description of the community and its eventful heyday, as well as its long decline. An excellent photo section handsomely illustrates San Felipe and similar sections provide the same visual service for Nacogdoches and Goliad. Davis' absorbing account of these three key Texas communities make the reader anxious for a fourth volume.

Bill O'Neal
Panola College

The Courthouse Square in Texas, Robert E. Veselka & Kenneth E. Foote, editor (University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819) 2000. Contents. Appendices. Biblio. Maps. Illus. Index. P. 244. \$25.95. Paperback. \$50.00. Hardcover.

The publication of Robert Veselka's book comes at a time of heightened interest in courthouse preservation, as reflected by the overwhelming response

to the current Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program of the Texas Historical Commission. It is essentially a typological study and, as such, exhibits the limitations of such analysis. That is, it works where models are defined clearly and the squares precisely fit these definitions but breaks down when variants are encountered. In reality, most Texas squares continue to be modified in response to our evolving built environment.

Contextually, the author incorporates numerous earlier studies on courthouse-square design and builds upon their typology. Unfortunately, he does not clearly differentiate between subtleties of certain types, such as two-block, four-block, and six-block configurations. Additionally, the author relies too heavily on limited on-site sampling and incomplete historical documentation, which leads to conjecture. The book is particularly inconsistent in addressing relocated courthouses, both within communities and between county seats.

A secondary foci of the book is the author's attempt to analyze the effect of the courthouse square on surrounding community development, which he defines as centripetal and centrifugal influences. Although a novel analytical tool, which tends to work for the centripetal forces, no strong case is made that the courthouse square actually repels surrounding development. In fact, a truer representation would analyze the attractive factors of other, competing influences, such as new transportation corridors, land use policies, and urban and suburban development.

Veselka's study makes a contribution to the literature on Texans' fascination with courthouses on which others will need to build. Despite inconsistencies, it will serve as a beginning point in understanding the relationship of courthouse squares in town planning.

Stanley O. Graves, AIA
Austin, Texas

Lighthouses of Texas, T. Lindsay Baker (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 1991. 2001. Reprint. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 128. \$39.95. Hardcover.

Lighthouses today are silent sentinels from an era of maritime navigation before electronic and satellite communications. First published in 1991, *Lighthouses of Texas* is a survey of ten extant Texas lighthouses and two Texas lightships. In the first chapter, Baker reviews the installation of lighthouses and lightships along the Texas coast, beginning with the stationing of a lightship off Galveston Island in 1849. Subsequent chapters trace the construction and operation of the surviving lighthouses, as well as the Galveston and Heald Bank lightships. These chapters comprise the bulk of the volume. Of special interest to students of East Texas history is the author's coverage of the Sabine Pass and Sabine Bank lighthouses and the lighthouses near Galveston. He describes the tedium that lighthouse keepers faced, as well as their experiences during tropical storms and hurricanes.

This is a handsome book. Watercolor illustrations by artist Harold Phenix add immeasurably to its value. *Lighthouses of Texas* also has photographs, although it would have benefited from maps with the locations of each lighthouse. Its oversized format makes for easy reading. It is suitable as a coffee-table publication as well as a scholarly work, with extensive endnotes and a comprehensive bibliography. Baker conducted research at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C., utilizing records of the Lighthouse Service, and various archives in Texas.

The only major criticism of *Lighthouses of Texas* is its lack of a concluding chapter. Baker could have compared the effectiveness of the lighthouses in aiding navigation, for example. However, his work should remain the standard source on the subject for many years to come.

Casey E. Greene
Rosenberg Library

Spindletop: The Untold Story, Christine Moor Sanders (Christine Moor Sanders, P.O. Box 619, Woodville, TX 75979) 2000. Contents. Illus. Notes. Appendix. Biblio. Index. P. 332. \$38 +\$5 s/h. Hardcover. \$27 +\$5 s/h. Paperback.

Captain George Washington O'Brien owned a good portion of Big Hill outside of Beaumont, and he knew well the old stories and had seen the oil himself. So on a particular day early in the 1890s when he received an offer from George W. Carroll and Pattillo Higgins for the purchase of the property, O'Brien knew what they were after. He refused to sell to the Baptist businessman and his rather fanatical protégé who believed he could harness the Big Hill's petroleum products for manufacturing purposes. O'Brien did agree to become a partner in their Gladys City Oil, Gas and Manufacturing Company. In less than a decade the world changed as the Big Hill called Spindletop became the site of the greatest oil gusher to date.

Artist/author Christine Moor Sanders is a direct descendent of Captain O'Brien. Her brother, Les Moor, continues with the modern day Gladys City Oil Company. Sanders' pedigree and qualifications for the rendering of a family's story and its company's history are unquestionable. On the whole, Sanders accomplished her first goal, which was to reveal the O'Brien family history and its role in the Spindletop story. She begins her family's story with the O'Briens' arrival from Ireland and continues through to the most recent decades, paying most attention to Captain George Washington O'Brien, Civil War veteran, diarist, lawyer, and family patriarch. Sanders creates the feeling of certain events with selections of newspaper articles, affidavits, and letters that are primary sources to an historian and of interest to the general reader. Accompanying these selections are her artwork and selected photographs recalling a given period. Sadly, the author plainly had a second goal, which was to undermine the role played by Pattillo Higgins and others in this story

of nineteenth-century men involved in something truly beyond their comprehension. The balance and diplomacy for which many of the O'Briens were known would have better served the family story. There is also creative writing in the form of fictional narratives in which the writer projects what she thinks some of the primary players must have been thinking. Fortunately, these passages are in italics and not hidden in the text.

On the whole, Sanders has contributed substantially to the body of work on Spindletop available to the public. In so doing she has given researchers and the public the first glimpses of the Gladys City records, heretofore unavailable to anyone outside the Gladys City board. Hopefully this first examination of the company records will lead to further scholarly research and the eventual donation of the records to a proper archive in Texas. For this first exploration we can all be grateful to Sanders.

Terry Lee Rioux
New Orleans, Louisiana

The Texas Folklore Society 1971-2000 Volume III, Francis Edward Abernethy (University of North Texas Press, P.O. Box 311336, Denton, TX 76203-1336) 2000. Contents. B&W Photos. Index. P. 232. \$29.95. Hardcover.

In the final volume of the history of the Texas Folklore Society, Francis E. Abernethy assesses the years during which he has been editor. If it is personal for him, as he says it is, it is likewise for the majority of the present membership – the record of an organization that shaped many as folklorists, writers, and scholars whose work impacts regional and national historical and literary groups.

Abernethy follows the familiar format of setting the society's doings within the framework of history, detailing meetings with reminiscences, anecdotes, photos, programs, lists of publications. He highlights such members as Martha Emmons, Jim Byrd, Paul Patterson – who is as old as the organization itself – and James Bratcher, who provided a singular contribution to TFS – the 1971 Analytical Index. The editor does not hesitate to include some of the trials and tribulations of the organization.

Examining the contents of volumes appearing under Abernethy's editorship reveals a shift toward a less academic approach to folklore. It is to his credit that he built on the past but found ways to organize the publications around a theme and enlarged the traditional miscellany to include photos and illustrations. *Texas Toys and Games* is an example. He included, occasionally, some personal and creative folklore pieces by the membership.

Abernethy makes a valuable contribution as editor in the writing of introductions in which he stresses folklore's connection with the universal. In his first volume as editor he declared: "To me folklore is the ultimate, all-encompassing field of study. I see a decade, a millennium, or an age go by, but the

creature man remains the same, activated by the same urges, responding in the same way as did his ancient cave-dwelling ancestors. Only the symbols change. The gods shift their shape but continue to answer to the same needs, and folklore is the demonstration of this eternal kinship." His affirmation will stand the test of time.

Joyce Gibson Roach
Keller, Texas

Over the Wall: The Men Behind the 1934 Death House Escape, Patrick McConal (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159) 2000. Contents. Epilogue. Notes. Biblio. Index. B&W Photos. P. 214. \$21.95. Paperback.

One of the more unfortunate aspects of Depression-era Texas came with the appearance of a number of home-grown outlaws who briefly terrorized the Texas countryside early in the 1930s. The most infamous, Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker, were given film immortality in a highly-romanticized release in 1967 directed by Arthur Penn and starring Warren Beatty and Faye Duna-way. Since the release of that film, other Texas desperadoes of the time, most of whom sprang from similar small town, rural origins, have also received greater attention from researchers and historians. This book chronicles the escapades of a loosely-knit group known as the "Whitey" Walker gang.

Although the subtitle of the book suggests that a much larger focus will be trained on a desperate escape from Death Row in 1934, the bulk of the narrative covers other topics, i.e. biographical sketches of individuals who either were associated with the gang or whose activities intersected with those of the gang members. Relatively little attention is paid to the prison break itself. The author draws heavily from contemporary newspaper accounts, supplemented with scattered court and prison records, and interviews with individuals, now quite elderly, who remember aspects of the gang's activities. The book McConal has produced is extensive in its research, straightforward and workmanlike in its presentation, and with little romantic embellishment of the gang or of its criminal activities. It will please those readers having an interest in crime, law enforcement, or the exploits of latter day Texas outlaws.

Donald R. Walker
Texas Tech University

Culture in the American Southwest: the earth, the sky, the people, Keith L. Bryant, Jr. (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2001. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 379. \$34.95. Hardcover.

In Bryant's comprehensive and well-illustrated study, his focus is defined as "the high culture of music, art, architecture, literature, theater, and ballet" (p. 9). His geographical boundaries of the modern Southwest are located "to the west and south of a line drawn from Houston to Tulsa to Colorado Springs and westward to Los Angeles" (pp. 5-6). He credits Spindletop with moving the eastern limits to include Houston in 1901, just as petroleum brought Dallas, Tulsa, and Oklahoma into the Southwest. Most of East Texas is outside Bryant's Southwest.

Bryant's chronological survey of high culture begins with Casa Grande, Arizona (1350), and Mesa Verde, Colorado, and ends with the exportation of a Southwest regional culture (1980-1995). Among the landmarks of high culture recognized in eastern Texas are Houston's Alley Theatre and writer Max Apple, Dallas' Margo Jones theatre and artist Jerry Bywaters, and Fort Worth's Kimball Museum. In discussing how the Wendy and Emery Reves Collection doubled the value of the holdings of the Dallas Museum of Arts, Bryant acknowledges Wendy Reves' "rural" roots in Marshall.

An oversight in Bryant's thorough inventory of high culture is the omission of Kilgore's Van Cliburn, whose foundation sponsors an international piano competition in Fort Worth.

A unifying theme in the catalog of Southwestern high culture is the interplay of people and their natural environment. Bryant notes that recent generations of Southwesterners have shaken off "their sense of provincialism." He concludes, "Just as salsa has challenged ketchup as the nation's leading condiment, the peoples of the Southwest have created a culture that has altered and shaped the national American culture" (p. 308).

Fred Tarpley
Texas A&M, Commerce

Lone Star Picture Shows, Richard Schroeder (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2001. Contents. Illus. Notes, Biblio. Index. P. 202. \$34.95. Hardcover.

In *Lone Star Picture Shows*, Richard Schroeder and the Texas A&M University Press have put together a well-illustrated study of the history of the motion pictures in Texas from 1897 to 1960. The author presents the reader with a series of carefully collected interviews conducted with a variety of individuals involved in the development of film presentations throughout the state. He also provides a series of appendices, including: a listing of motion picture theatres in Texas during the period covered; Texas motion picture pioneers; theatre circuits in Texas in the 1930s; and Texas motion picture stars.

The primary value of *Lone Star Picture Shows* lies in the illustrations and oral histories collected by the author. Though occasionally redundant, the latter reflect vividly the activities of their sources. As a history of the motion pictures, the work is limited as was the author's intent. There are, however, some pertinent omissions. For instance, no mention is made of the influence of the major motion-picture producers and their policy of requiring block-bookings on the part of exhibitors, a policy resulting in the Supreme Court's "Paramount Decision" (1948) forcing the major producers to abandon the practice and to divest themselves of their nation-wide theatre chains. No indication is made in the appendix or text regarding out-of-state ownership or control of Texas theatres.

The author's writing style is simple and direct. On occasion, the lack of adequate transitions makes reading the text a jarring experience. A more frequent use of section topic headings would have been welcome.

As a source of information on the evolution of the Texas motion picture theatres, the book is of value. Since the Texas scene varied but little from the national, for the reader interested in the history of motion pictures a variety of thorough, well-written, and well-organized motion picture histories is available.

W. K. Waters
Professor of Theatre Emeritus
Stephen F. Austin State University

Tent Show: Arthur Names and His "Famous" Players, Donald W. Whisenhunt (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2000. Contents. Notes. Biblio. Index. Illus. P. 174. \$29.95. Hardcover.

Donald Whisenhunt's *Tent Show* focuses on Arthur Names' one-man struggle to keep the tradition of the traveling tent theatre alive in communities throughout West Texas, eastern Colorado, Kansas, and western Oklahoma. Names earned legendary status between the early 1920s and the mid-1940s in the small rural communities where he pitched his tent and put on what was probably the only theatrical production his audiences ever witnessed. Aided by a strong spirit of rugged individualism, the respect and devotion of his rural fans, and a little luck, Art Names was able to keep his show on the road long after many other repertoire companies had succumbed to competing forms of entertainment, primarily radios, big screen movie theaters, and television sets.

Often performing in towns that supported populations between 500 and 1,000 citizens, Art Names and his small band of actors presented a variety of theatrical plays, skits, vaudeville routines, and recitations of poetry. While many members of their audiences, especially young boys and girls, believed the traveling actors lived a life full of adventure and excitement, few realized the hardships and risks involved in operating a successful tent repertoire company. Whisenhunt's account of Art Names and his famous players skill-

fully reveals both the glamour and hazards associated with mobile tent shows. One night, the company's actors could be standing before applauding fans and the following night they might find themselves trying to save their tent from the high winds of a thunderstorm or an uncontrollable fire ignited by one of the heaters used to keep their patrons warm.

Whisenhunt, whose father was an equal partner with Art Names during the early 1940s, makes good use of the limited primary and secondary sources which were available to him. The author also includes a valuable introduction in which W. Kenneth Waters gives a brief history of the American repertoire theatre. While his study is more limited in scope than William L. Slout's *Theater in a Tent: The Development of a Provincial Entertainment* (Popular Press 1972), Whisenhunt provides his reader a valuable glimpse into a form of rural entertainment which time has left behind and scholars have long ignored.

Kenneth W. Howell
Texas A&M University

Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Shaping of American Culture, Nancy Beck Young, William D. Pederson, & Byron W. Daynes, editors (M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 80 Business Park Dr, Armonk, NY 10504 USA) 2001. Contents. Biographical Digest. Contributors. Index. P. 154. \$56.95. Hardcover. \$22.95. Paperback.

Franklin D. Roosevelt and Congress: The New Deal and Its Aftermath, Thomas P. Wolf, William D. Pederson, and Byron W. Daynes, editors (M.E. Sharp, Inc., 80 Business Park Dr, Armonk, NY 10504 USA) 2001. Contents. Appendix. Chronology. Biographical Digest. Biblio. Contributors. Index. P. 191. \$69.95. Hardcover. \$24.95. Paperback.

The nineteen selections in these two volumes were initially presented at a conference – *FDR After 50 Years* – held at Louisiana State University at Shreveport in September 1995. Targeted for a wide audience, both anthologies demonstrate the diversity and vitality of recent scholarly interest in Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal. Specialists in a variety of fields – political history and political science, cultural and social history, art history, and literary criticism, as well as the general public — will certainly find something of interest.

The first volume, *Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Shaping of American Culture*, contains nine chapters that explore the linkage between politics and culture. The selections include studies about the changing imagery of FDR in souvenir iconography and film. Six chapters detail the effects of the New Deal upon art, architecture, and music, emphasizing the impact on the local level. The final essay describes how politics and the national pastime of baseball interacted during FDR's tenure.

Two selections stand out for Texas readers. Francine Carraro, Executive Director of the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson, Wyoming, reas-

sesses New Deal art programs by examining their activities in Texas. Such programs provided relief for artists and produced artwork for display in public buildings throughout the state. Philip Parisi, a journalist and editor with the Texas Historical Commission, specifically focuses on images chosen for mural art in Texas' post offices, asserting that federal officials encouraged only positive heroic images such as pioneers, Native Americans, cowboys, or Texas Rangers "to help bolster public confidence and restore faith in the American Dream" (p. 73).

The second volume, *Franklin D. Roosevelt and Congress: The New Deal and Its Aftermath*, contains seven essays which examine the relationship of various groups within Congress as well as individual congressmen with FDR and the New Deal. Three selections reassess legacies of the New Deal, including FDR's "purge of 1938" and partisan realignment during the 1930s. Texas historians might appreciate the essay on Maury Maverick's congressional "mavericks" by Creighton University professor Dennis N. Mihelich as well as the chapter on Sam Rayburn's mutually beneficial relationship with FDR by Rayburn biographer and UT-Dallas professor Anthony Champagne. And Nancy Beck Young, associate professor of history at McKendree College, offers an insightful analysis of legendary Texas congressman Wright Patman's entrepreneurial leadership.

These two volumes will enhance any New Deal collection. And the bibliography provides an excellent guide to recent scholarship.

Mark W. Beasley
Hardin-Simmons University

Stateside Soldier: Life in the Women's Army Corps 1944-1945, Aileen Kilgore Henderson (University of South Carolina Press, 937 Assembly St. Carolina Pl, 8th Fl, Columbia, SC 29208) 2001. Contents. Illustrations. Prologue. Epilogue. Index. P. 252. \$24.95. Hardcover.

Aileen Kilgore Henderson's book, *Stateside Soldier: Life in the Women's Army Corps 1944-1945*, chronicles the cultural shock of a young woman from the hills of Alabama who was suddenly introduced to strict Army discipline. Henderson took her basic training at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, and later was sent to Ellington Air Force Base, Texas, where she trained as an airplane mechanic and later became a photo lab technician.

A few years ago Henderson found a box filled with jumbled papers and letters, diaries, and old photos and notes. After putting her "memories" in chronological order, her manuscript was accepted by the University of South Carolina Press as part of their "Women's Diaries and Letters of the South." Even though it should be read for pleasure, Henderson would like for the reader to keep in mind who she was, where she came from, and the climate of the times early in the 1940s.

I was able to follow Henderson's experiences – step by step – because I was

a Navy WAVE and published my own collection of “old WAVES tales.” Henderson describes it well – the excitement and anxiety of enlisting, the camaraderie, the challenges, G.I. Insurance, war bonds, endless hours of marching, and yes, even garter belts! I wish, however, she would have written more about her duties as a mechanic and in the photo lab and less about weekends with “Mrs. Glass and DD,” her assortment of stray cats, and Texas-size mosquitoes.

The brave women who volunteered for “the duration and six months” almost sixty years ago will be long remembered, thanks to books such as these. It has been difficult for me to limit this review to only 300 words!

Marie Bennett Alsmeyer
Tyler, Texas

For Love of Country: The Price of Freedom, Martha Sue Stroud (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159) 2000. Contents. Illus. Notes. Index. P. 567. \$32.95. Hardcover.

Martha Sue Stroud published her first book about northeast Texas three years ago. It was *Gateway to Texas: A History of Red River County*, which tells the story of an area. Her latest work, *For Love of Country*, tells the story of the people who live in that area.

For Love of Country is an in-depth study of the part that the people of Clarksville and Red River County played in establishing and defending their county, their state, and their country.

Through family stories, letters, diaries, newspaper accounts, county records, and personal interviews with veterans or their families, Stroud has compiled a massive stockpile of information about the men and women of Red River County who were involved in three wars – the Civil War, World War I, and World War II. She ties these stories together with her own rich store of memories of Clarksville. This information gives us a vivid picture of the people, places, and times she writes about.

Beginning with the early days of Texas, Stroud portrays the struggles of these pioneers to settle and develop Red River County and to establish settlements, churches, and local governments. Their continuing struggles to defend and maintain what they had established is told through their eyes and words.

Northeast Texas participated in fighting for Texas independence and later for Southern rights in the Civil War. Most men from this area fought for the Confederacy. Letters and journals of the time, however, show that some families were divided between the Blue and Gray like the rest of the nation.

The effects of World War I on the people of this area are reported in their own words. Records, newspaper accounts, and family interviews show that there was more loss of life from disease than in actual battle. This was especially so with the Spanish Flu epidemic, which killed soldiers and civilians alike.

The major portion of the book is devoted to World War II. The author includes over 500 first-hand interviews with veterans and their families, plus the author's own personal memories. She was twelve years old at the time of Pearl Harbor, and her memories of that Pearl Harbor Christmas are sharp and real. All of these first-hand accounts give a sense of immediacy to the times. Official records of the time speak to us sixty years later; one Clarksville family sent five sons and one daughter to the service of their country in World War II.

I must confess that when I was first confronted with the mass of information that Stroud compiled that I was intimidated and more than a little put off. Then I started reading, and I was soon caught up in the lives and times of those people of Red River County. I saw their adventures through their eyes and heard their struggles through their voices. The final chapter of *For Love of Country* is entitled "Lest We Forget," and after reading Martha Sue Stroud's stories, no one can.

Hazel Shelton Abernethy
Nacogdoches, Texas